



American Indian Alliance

Ongoing Projects:

Creating an Urban American Indian Cultural Community / Center

Project Leader: Laverne Morrissey

This project is to create a unified vision of such a center, and to send a message of healing throughout our community through celebrations and fund-raising activities. This project has already hosted several events and the project's volunteers are still exploring and designing activities to move towards the center's creation.

Producing an American Indian Community Newspaper

In an effort to gather the news from various American Indian organizations into a central location, a group of Alliance members began producing a community newsletter, Indian Valley News, in April to keep the community informed of activities and issues relating to American Indians in this area.

Producing The Bay Area Pow Wow Calendar

This calendar project was graciously transferred to the Alliance from its founder, Betty Cooper, and the American Indian Family Healing Center in Oakland, where it has been produced annually for 10 years. This calendar is part of the Alliance's continuing efforts to link different individuals and American Indian organizations together.

Recording and Presenting The History

Project Leader: Carol Olmstead

Preserve American Indian oral histories and traditions by documenting and communicating the histories of the many American Indians in Santa Clara County. Interviews with various American Indian elders are already underway.

American Indian Veterans Recognition

Project Leader: Orvie Longhorn

There are many American Indians in Santa Clara County who honorably served in the U.S. Military. This project explores ways to recognize their contributions and ways to better support them and their families.

Math Tutoring for American Indian Youth

Designing and implementing an after-school math tutoring program for young people in K-5 & 6-12. Volunteers with this project hosted a workshop in April for educators and are looking to develop more activities.

Forums on American Indian "Journeys To Success"

Producing forums on American Indian "success" stories, featuring professionals, skilled laborers and others who have been successful in the job market and have advice to offer our community. The first forum was in May, and featured Al Cross, who talked about his experiences as a social worker and educator.

American Indian Legal Resources

Project Leader: Al Cross

Connecting American Indians in Santa Clara County to legal resources, and identifying ways to further develop and enhance legal resources.

Native American Holocaust Presentation

Project Leader: Al Cross

Gathering information and materials for a portable exhibit documenting 500 years of American Indian genocide. This project would promote healing in the American Indian community by raising awareness of the truth of American history and its effects on the Indian people. The members of this project believe it will prepare their youth to be healthier persons.

Raising Teacher Awareness of American Indian Culture

Project Leader: Alison C. Lucas

Develop a workshop that will provide teachers with tools and methods to raise awareness in their classrooms of American Indian culture and history. The first workshop will be for teachers at Trace Elementary School.

Alliance Recruitment & Resources

Each of the aforementioned projects is facing questions about recruiting volunteers and gathering resources, so Alliance members have formed a project around these specific activities. Over 50 new members were recruited at various powwows this past summer, and more efforts are in the works.

Other projects are listed at right.

Updates on all projects will be published
in the next issue of "Reaching for a New Reality."

For more information, please contact the Partnership.

408 - 261 - 7100